

Borough Franchise (Ireland) Bill.

ARRANGEMENT OF CLAUSES.

Clause.

1. Short title.
2. Application of Act.
3. Occupation franchise for voters in boroughs.
4. Occupiers may pay poor rates.
5. Occupiers names to appear in rate books.
6. Notices and lists of arrears of poor rates.
7. Successive occupations.
8. General saving.
9. Construction of Act.
10. Interpretation of terms.

SCHEDULE.

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B I L L

FOR

The Extension of the Parliamentary Franchise in Boroughs A.D. 1880.
in Ireland.

BE it enacted by the Queen's most Excellent Majesty, by and with the advice and consent of the Lords Spiritual and Temporal, and Commons, in this present Parliament assembled, and by the authority of the same, as follows:

1. This Act may be cited for all purposes as the Borough Franchise (Ireland) Act, 1880. Short title.

2. This Act shall extend to Ireland only, but shall not in anywise affect the election of members to serve in Parliament for the borough of the University of Dublin. Application of Act.

3. *From and after the passing of this Act* every male person shall be entitled to be registered as a voter, and, when registered, to vote for a member or members to serve in Parliament for a borough, who is qualified as follows; that is to say, is of full age, and not subject to any legal incapacity; and is on the twentieth day of July in any year, and has during the whole of the preceding twelve calendar months been, an inhabitant occupier, as owner or tenant, of any dwelling-house within the borough in respect of which all poor rates have been paid on or before the first day of July in such year which became payable thereout during his occupation thereof and previously to the first day of January in such year. Occupation franchise for Voters in Boroughs.

Provided that no person shall under this section be entitled to be registered as a voter by reason of his being a joint occupier of any dwelling-house.

4. A person shall be entitled to be registered and to vote under the provisions of this section, notwithstanding that during a part of the qualifying period, not exceeding four months in the whole, he shall, by letting or otherwise, have permitted the qualifying premises to be occupied as a furnished house by some other person.

5. Where the immediate lessor of any dwelling-house in any borough is liable to pay the poor rates for such dwelling-house, and Occupiers may pay poor rates.

[Bill 170.]

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A.D. 1880. — omits or neglects to pay any such rate within four months after the making thereof, the inhabitant occupier may, at any time after the expiration of such period of four months, pay so much thereof as accrued due during his term of occupation : And every such occupier so paying such rate may deduct from the rent he may be then or 5 next thereafter liable to pay in respect of such dwelling-house the whole of any rate he may have paid in respect of such house, and if rent sufficient to cover such rate be not then or do not thereafter become due from such occupier, he shall be entitled to recover the same from such lessor by civil bill. Nothing contained in this 10 section shall prejudice or affect any right or liability of such occupier under any Act for the Relief of the Poor in Ireland.

Occupiers' names to appear in rate books.

5. In all cases the name of the occupier of a dwelling-house rated to the relief of the poor, whether the immediate lessor is primarily liable for the payment of the poor rate for such dwelling-house or 15 not, shall be inserted in the rate book ; and the guardians of the poor, or the Collector General of rates, or any other person or persons making out any such poor rate, shall enter in the occupier's column of the rate book the name of the occupier of every such dwelling-house ; and if any person negligently or wilfully and without 20 reasonable cause omits the name of the occupier of any such dwelling-house from the rate, or negligently or wilfully misstates any name therein, such person shall, for every such omission or misstatement, be liable to a penalty not exceeding *two pounds*, to be recovered by civil bill before the County Court Judge, at suit 25 of the occupier of the dwelling-house in relation to which such omission or misstatement shall have taken place : Provided that any occupier whose name shall be so omitted shall, notwithstanding such omission, be entitled to every qualification and franchise depending upon his occupation of a dwelling-house in the same manner 30 as if his name had not been so omitted.

Notices and lists of arrears of poor rates.

6. Where the immediate lessor of any dwelling-house in any borough is liable to pay the poor rates for such dwelling-house, and any poor rate due in respect of such house on the first day of January in any year remain unpaid on the first day of May follow- 35 ing, the guardians of the poor in boroughs other than Dublin, and in Dublin the Collector General of rates, shall on or before the twentieth of the same month of May, unless such rate has previously been paid or has been duly demanded from the occupier under the provisions of the Acts relating to the Relief of the Poor in Ireland, 40 give or cause to be given a notice in the form set forth in the schedule to this Act, or to the like effect, to the occupier of such

A.D. 1880.

dwelling-house. The notice shall be deemed to be duly given if delivered to the occupier or left at his last or usual place of abode, or with some person on the premises in respect of which the rate is payable. Any person who shall wilfully withhold such notice with
5 intent to keep such occupier off the list or register of voters for the borough, shall for each such case be liable to a penalty not exceeding *two pounds*, to be recovered by civil bill by the occupier of the dwelling-house in relation to which such notice was withheld. The provisions of the thirty-first section of the Act of the session of
10 Parliament held in the thirteenth and fourteenth years of the reign of Her present Majesty, chapter sixty-nine, relative to the lists of persons who have not paid rates payable by them in respect of the occupation of premises in a borough, shall apply to owners of dwelling-houses capable of conferring the parliamentary franchise,
15 when such owners are liable by law to pay the poor rates assessed thereon, and when any rate due thereon on the first day of January is unpaid on the first day of July in any year; and such lists shall also set forth the names of the inhabitant occupiers of such dwelling-houses.

20 7. Different dwelling-houses occupied and inhabited in immediate succession by any person during the twelve calendar months next previous to the twentieth day of July in any year, shall have the same effect in qualifying such person to vote for a borough as a continued occupation of the same premises in the manner provided
25 by this Act.

Successive
occupations.

8. The franchise conferred by this Act shall be in addition to, and not in substitution for, any existing franchise, but so that no person shall be entitled to vote for the same place in respect of more than one qualification, and, subject to the provisions of this
30 Act, all laws, customs, and enactments now in force conferring any right to vote or otherwise relating to the representation of the people in Ireland, and the registration of persons entitled to vote, shall remain in full force, and shall apply, as nearly as circumstances admit, to any person hereby authorised to vote and to the franchise
35 hereby conferred. All precepts, instruments, proceedings, lists, and notices relating to the registration of voters in boroughs shall be framed and expressed in such manner and form as may be necessary for carrying the provisions of this Act into effect.

General
saving.

9. This Act, so far as is consistent with the tenor thereof, shall
40 be construed as one with the enactments for the time being in force relating to the representation of the people in Ireland, and

Construction
of Act.

A.D. 1880. relating to the registration of parliamentary voters in boroughs in Ireland.

Interpre-
tation of
terms.

10. The term "borough" means a city, town, or borough entitled at the time of the passing of this Act to return a member or members to serve in Parliament.

The term "dwelling-house" means a dwelling-house separately rated to the relief of the poor, and includes any part of a house occupied as a separate dwelling, and separately rated to the relief of the poor.

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SCHEDULE

A.D. 1880.

*Form of Notice of Rates in Arrear, where immediate Lessor
is liable.*

To *A.B.*

5 City [or borough] of

Take notice that you will not be entitled to have your name
inserted in the list of voters for this city [or borough] now about
to be made, in respect of the dwelling-house in your occupation,
unless you pay on or before the first day of July next all the poor
10 rates which have become due during your term of occupation in
respect of such dwelling-house up to the first day of January last.

Dated the day of May 18 .

C.D.,

Clerk or collector or other
person having authority
to give the notice.

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**Borough Franchise
(Ireland).**

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B I L L

*For the Extension of the Parliamentary
Franchise in Boroughs in Ireland.*

*(Prepared and brought in by
the Secretary, the Solicitor, and the Solicitor
General for Ireland.)*

*Ordered by The House of Commons, to be Printed,
16 May 1850.*

[SSE 176.]

Under T. 101.